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(54) **PLAYER TRACKING COMMUNICATION MECHANISMS IN A GAMING MACHINE**

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148 B, 157 A

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(57) **ABSTRACT**

A disclosed a player tracking unit provides a display, one or more illumination devices adjacent to the display and a logic device designed to control illumination of the illumination devices in a manner that visually conveys gaming information to an individual viewing the devices. A speaker may be also provided on the player tracking unit to aurally convey gaming information such as voice messages designed to inform or instruct the player in some manner. The player tracking unit may include a wireless interface device designed or configured to allow player tracking information to be automatically downloaded from a portable wireless device carried by the player or player status information to be communicated to a casino service representative carrying a portable wireless device.

**88 Claims, 7 Drawing Sheets**

